

Texas Environmental Flows Science Advisory Committee

Tuesday, April 7, 2009

8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Headquarters, Board Room  
4200 Smith School Road  
Austin, Texas

**Meeting Minutes**

**Call Meeting to Order**

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

The Science Advisory Committee (SAC) approved the meeting minutes from the March 4, 2009 SAC meeting.

**Liason reports on BBEST meetings**

**Bob Brandes and Fred Manhart**

Bob Brandes, SAC Vice Chair, summarized the events of the Trinity and San Jacinto Rivers and Galveston Bay Basin and Bay Expert Science Team (BBEST) meeting held on March 11, 2009. Fred Manhart, SAC member, spoke of the events at the Sabine and Neches Rivers and Sabine Lake Bay BBEST meeting held on March 31, 2009.

Jack Tatum, Chair of the Sabine and Neches Rivers and Sabine Lake Bay BBEST, commented that the BBEST is making progress with defining geographic extent. Bob Huston, SAC Chair, stated that the geographic scope document prepared by the SAC and state agencies has been delivered to the BBESTs.

**Budget Update**

**Carolyn Brittin, TWDB**

Carolyn Brittin, Texas Water Development Board, updated the SAC on their balance remaining for the 2008-2009 fiscal year, stated that purchase orders for two HEFR contracts were ready to be issued today, and remarked that literature review work is ready to enter contracts.

**Report from HEFR Refinement Subgroup**

**Opdyke and Brandes**

Bob Brandes discussed progress being made by the HEFR Refinement Subgroup. Dan Opdyke, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), provided a handout "HEFR Enhancements and Modifications" and the latest draft of the HEFR deliverable. The SAC and HEFR Refinement Subgroup members discussed the enhancements and modifications in detail, revisions to be made to the HEFR deliverable, and the timeline for making these revisions.

Bob Huston, SAC Chair, suggested that another HEFR workshop be scheduled after the BBESTs receive the HEFR deliverable.

**ACTION ITEM:** The SAC will review sections of the HEFR deliverable (April 7, 2009 draft), track their changes, and return to Dan Opdyke by April 15, 2009. Dan Opdyke will revise a section of the HEFR deliverable, send it to the SAC, and the SAC will track their changes and return the document back to Mr. Opdyke by April 15, 2009. Bob

Brandes and Mr. Opdyke will revise the HEFR deliverable and distribute it to the SAC by April 20, 2009.

### **Sediment Transport Presentation**

**Frank Heitmuller, TWDB staff**

Frank Heitmuller, SAC member, introduced Dr. Nolan Raphelt, Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), and the topic of the sediment transport overlay. Dr. Raphelt gave a powerpoint presentation titled "Geomorphic Overlays Using SAM to Determine to Effective Discharge" and a handout of the sediment transport deliverable "Fluvial Sediment Transport as an Overlay to Instream Flow Recommendations for the Environmental Flows Allocation Process" was provided. The SAC discussed revisions to be made to the sediment transport deliverable.

ACTION ITEM: The SAC and the TWDB will revise the sediment transport deliverable and send their comments to Frank Heitmuller by April 17, 2009. Mr. Heitmuller will revise the deliverable and send the document to the SAC by April 27, 2009.

### **Report on B&E Memo Status**

**Bob Brandes**

Bob Brandes, Paul Montagna, and George Ward, SAC members of the B&E subgroup, summarized progress made on the B&E deliverable. The SAC discussed revisions to be made to the deliverable.

ACTION ITEM: The SAC, TWDB, TPWD, and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), will review Chapters 1-3 of the B&E memo and send their revisions to the B&E subgroup by April 20, 2009. The B&E subgroup will revise Chapter 4 of the deliverable and send it to the SAC by April 20, 2009. The SAC, TWDB, TPWD, and TCEQ will revise Chapter 4 and return it to the B&E subgroup by April 27, 2009. The B&E subgroup will revise Chapter 4 again, and return the deliverable to the SAC and state agencies by May 1, 2009.

### **Progress Reports (Overlays to Hydrology Analyses)**

#### **Water Quality**

**Paul Jensen**

Paul Jensen, SAC member, provided a handout of the latest draft (April 3, 2009) of "Nutrient and Water Quality Overlay on Hydrology-based Instream Flow Recommendations". The SAC discussed revisions to be made to the deliverable.

ACTION ITEM: Dr. Jensen will revise the deliverable and return it to the SAC by April 27, 2009.

#### **Biology**

**Jim Wiersema**

Jim Wiersema, SAC member, commented on progress being made with the biology overlay. Mr. Wiersema presented a compilation of maps. The SAC requested that Mr. Wiersema prepare a document describing the resources and process involved in his data collection and map compilation. Kevin Mayes and Norman Johns offered their support with writing the document.

ACTION ITEM: Mr. Wiersema will draft a biology overlay deliverable.

**Next Meeting (Schedule and Agenda)**

The next SAC meeting is scheduled for 8:30 - 1:00 PM, May 8, 2009. The location will be determined at a later date.

Tentative agenda items:

- Discuss revised B&E memo.
- Discuss HEFR deliverable and future workshop.
- Discuss revised sediment transport overlay deliverable.
- Discuss revised nutrient and water quality overlay deliverable.
- Discuss biology overlay deliverable.
- Presentation by TWDB on SB2 progress and discussion with SAC.

**Meeting Adjourned**